

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 297927

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS; PFOR, PINT, MILI, AO, ZA, CG

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN'S STATEMENT ON US ARMS ASSIS-
TANCE TO ANGOLA THROUGH ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE

REF: (A) LUSAKA 2456; B) PARIS 32780

1. FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT EXCERPTS FROM AMB. MOYNIHAN'S
INTERVIEW ON SUNDAY, DEC.14 TV SHOW:

QTE: Q. HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN WHAT WE ARE DOING THERE
(IN ANGOLA)? WE'VE SPENT \$50 MILLION SO FAR.

A. HAVE WE? I MEAN, THERE IS SOME QUESTION WHETHER
THAT MUCH HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED.

Q. GIVE OR TAKE A MILLION?

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A. WELL, I THINK DOLS 25 MILLION MAY HAVE BEEN SPENT.
ALL I KNOW IS WHAT I READ IN THE TIMES.

Q. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE INVOLVED AND INVOLVED MILITARILY.

A. WE HAVE GIVEN ARMS, AS I UNDERSTAND, TO THE GOVERNMENT
OF ZAIRE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA, WHICH HAVE PASSED
THEM ON. ARE WE INVOLVED TO THAT EXTENT? EVIDENTLY WE ARE.
THAT IS A VERY DIFFERENT THING. AND IT'S A RESPONSIVE
THING, A VERY DIFFERENT THING, FROM AN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
TAKING OVER A COUNTRY.

Q. ALL RIGHT, BUT THE ONLY THING WE ARE DOING IS WE
ARE ALIGNING OURSELVES WITH SOUTH AFRICA IN THIS PART OF
THE WORLD.

A. I READ IN THE PAPERS AND FOUND THAT OUR INVOLVE-
MENT THERE WAS EVERYWHERE BEING DESCRIBED AS ALIGNING OUR-
SELVES WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

Q. DOES THAT GIVE YOU PAUSE?

A. YES. IT SUGGESTS TO ME THAT INSIDE AMERICA THE
JOURNALISTS WHO WROTE THAT AND SO FORTH WERE DESCRIBING
OUR ACTION IN TERMS THAT IS HARDLY TENABLE. I MEAN, YOU
CAN'T DO IT. THEY DIDN'T SAY WE ARE ALIGNING OURSELVES
WITH ZAIRE, AND THEY DIDN'T SAY WE ARE ALIGNING OURSELVES
WITH ZAMBIA. END QTE.

2. FRONT PAGE STORY IN DEC. 15 WASHINGTON POST MADE
FOLLOWING PERTINENT REFERENCE TO MOYNIHAN'S TV REMARKS:

QTE: HE BECAME THE FIRST AMERICAN PUBLIC OFFICIAL TO
CONFIRM THAT WASHINGTON IS FUNNELING DOLS 50 MILLION
THROUGH THE GOVERNMENTS OF ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA TO THE ANTI-
SOVIET FACTIONS IN ANGOLA. END QTE

3. UPON READING POST ARTICLE, ZAMBIAN AMB. MWALE CALLED
DEPT TO SAY THAT HE PLANNED TO ISSUE IMMEDIATE DENIAL RE
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ANY GRZ INVOLVEMENT. IT WAS SUGGESTED TO HIM THAT
BEFORE HE DID SO, HE SHOULD CLEAR ANY SUCH STATEMENT
WITH STATE HOUSE IN LUSAKA. REGRETTABLY NOT ALL FACTS WERE
KNOWN AT TIME THIS SUGGESTION WAS MADE TO MWALE.

4. AMBASSADOR IS AUTHORIZED TO RESPOND TO MANDAQUERY
ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: YOU WILL NOTE THAT AMB. MOYNIHAN
MENTIONED THAT NEW YORK TIMES WAS SOURCE OF HIS INFORMA-

TION, NOT US GOVERNMENT. AS GRZ WELL KNOWS, THERE HAS BEEN NO RPT NO SHIPMENT OF ARMS TO ZAMBIA BY USG TO BE USED IN SUPPORT OF ANY ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT.

5. WE HAVE NOT BEEN QUESTIONED PUBLICLY ON THIS STORY; BUT IF WE ARE, WE WILL AVOID SAYING ANYTHING WHICH WOULD

LEND OFFICIAL CREDENCE TO STATEMENT THAT WE HAVE SHIPPED ARMS TO ANGOLA THROUGH ZAMBIA. KISSINGER

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